

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Ancaster Exemption to Densification

**From:** Mercier, Michael <[mercieme@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mercieme@mcmaster.ca)>

**Sent:** August 5, 2022 6:04 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>

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Re. Council Ratification re. Ancaster Exemption to Ending Exclusionary Zoning (Friday August 12<sup>th</sup>):

I wanted to register my opposition to the proposed Ancaster exemption to ending exclusionary zoning and thereby increasing residential density (even gently), which I believe is ridiculous exceptionalism. This should, in no way, be approved.

If Ancaster becomes exempt, residents of Dundas, Waterdown, West Mountain, etc. will feel they have the same right. And before you know it, we (as the City of Hamilton) will not reach our densification targets OR, if we do, it will be entirely on the backs of certain already urban neighbourhoods. And in so doing, this will perpetuate the inequalities between urban and suburban parts of the city, and between wealthier and poorer residents and communities.

Furthermore, ignoring the universality of the need for densification will further perpetuate our automobile dependence in this city. Gentle density increases in all areas of the city are necessary to increase transit efficiency, to provide more affordable housing, and to help mitigate our contributions to climate change (by utilizing built and natural resources more efficiently and avoiding further expansion of our urban footprint). In this climate emergency, gentle densification is essential.

Please do not provide Ancaster, or any neighbourhood for that matter, an exemption.

Michael Mercier.  
(Ward 1 resident)

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